

by party obligations. Mr. J. said, he by no means intended to reflect upon the course of any gentleman here or elsewhere, who took a different view of this subject from him. He was aware that in most of the counties, they were borne down by popular feeling, and could not resist the infections of party—therefore all may be presumed to be acting according to the positions in which they have placed themselves. All that he asked was, an equal charity to be extended to him.

There were three propositions, or plans of apportionment, before the Convention, amongst a number of others, one of which, with or without amendment would probably be adopted. The first proposition upon which a vote was taken, was the one of the gentleman from Washington, [Mr. Schley,] which was rejected by a vote of 77 to 4. The next that of his colleague, [Mr. Merrick,] by 78 to 4. The next that of the gentleman from Kent, [Mr. Chambers,] from the minority committee on representation, by a vote of 44 to 39, and others have shared a similar fate.

Now, it appeared to him, as far as this showed any thing at all, that after all those votes had been taken, the Convention was as far off from a settlement of the question as when it commenced. The three propositions which might be considered before the House, although two of them had been defeated, were the proposition of the gentleman from Anne Arundel [Mr. Dorsey] the proposition of the gentleman from Washington, (Mr. Fiery,) and the proposition of the gentleman from Kent [Mr. Chambers] which latter two, will come up under motions to reconsider. If any plan was adopted, it would be in proximity with one of those. Now, he meant to say in relation to all those propositions, with a proper modification, which he believed ought to be made, in order to meet the true interests of the State of Maryland—he would stand ready to support of either of them.

He did not mean to take the extreme ground of the gentlemen from Worcester, (Mr. Jacobs,) or Dorchester, (Mr. Phelps,) or Somerset, (Mr. Dennis,) on the one side, or the gentlemen from Baltimore city, (Messrs. Brent and Gwinn,) and the gentleman from Carroll, (Mr. Brown,) on the other. He did not mean to say, as had been said there, that if certain gentlemen could not have representation according to their views, this Convention would be broken up in disorder.

He, (Mr. Jenifer,) did not mean to say that if he could not get such a representation as he desired for his own county that he was ready to break up this Convention and go home. Far from it. He came there, as he trusted every member did, to do his duty, and frame a Constitution, and although it might not embrace all his peculiar notions, yet if it reformed abuses, justly complained of, and did justice to all parts of the State, to give it his support.

Mr. J. said, he had indicated the course he preferred in the votes he had given on the proposition of the gentleman from Kent, of the mi-

nority of the committee on representation. This came nearer to his views than any other yet voted on. He believed that his constituents would be better satisfied with it, than any other before the Convention. But that had been rejected, and the question now was, after voting down so many plans—what shall be done?

A portion of the representation from the city of Baltimore, and some of the counties still hold on for representation according to numbers. Whilst some from the other counties desire no change in the present system. Mr. J. thought both extremes wrong, and by no means calculated to promote the interests of their respective constituents. He was unwilling to place himself in the position of either, but was in favor of a fair and liberal compromise.

He had voted against the proposition of the gentleman from Washington, (Mr. Fiery,) because he did not accept the amendment, he, (Mr. J.,) offered, which would, in his opinion, have obviated most of the objections to that plan, by bringing up the representation of the smaller counties in the House of Delegates, to three from each which would make the House of Delegates consist of eighty-two members—its present number—have placed it in its true light and position before the people of the whole State. And, before he went further, he would say, that he would not look at the ground upon which it was based—whether it was population, or territorial; provided the result was such as came up to his views.

Some gentlemen might call it one thing, and some another, but if the whole, upon the result, came up to what ought to be the representation, to protect the interests of the smaller counties, and the larger counties, and at the same time, do justice to Baltimore, he was prepared to go for it. And here he would say to the gentleman from Worcester, (Mr. Jacobs,) who so ably addressed the Convention, and to whom he had listened with much pleasure, that he, (Mr. Jenifer) could not stand rebuked by the declaration, "that it was wrong to advance an opinion in favor of compromise, until all other efforts to obtain the desired object had failed." Belligerent powers might assume that ground, hostile negotiators might reserve their *ultimatum* until pushed to the extreme.

But does it become a community of friends, of freemen, of statesmen, assembled together to frame a Constitution for the good of the whole, to stand, it may be, for ages; where all portions of the State have a deep and abiding interest—by acts of diplomacy to endeavor to gain a petty advantage over our own brethren? He thought not.

The true and manly course was, for each section of the State to have its interests and wishes made known, and upon a comparison of each with the other, should they appear different—an opportunity may be afforded of reconciling those differences. Much has already been done by this expression of open, honest opinions. When we first met here, representation according to population was claimed on the one side for the city of